

PUBLISHED THURSDAY MORNING,
By RUSSELL EATON,
Office over Granite Bank, Water St., Augusta.
EZEKIEL HOLMES, Editor.
Terms.—One dollar and seventy-five cents per annum,
if paid in advance; two dollars, if paid within the year;
two dollars and fifty cents, if payment is delayed beyond
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Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

TRANSPIRATION OF WATER FROM PLANTS.

A very interesting writer has published several numbers in the Saturday Courier, under the head of Scientific Agriculture. His 12th number is on the use of water in agriculture. A full development of every use of water in agriculture, would require a large volume. We are, however, reminded by some of his remarks, of the great quantity of water that is transpired from plants when in a flourish condition. Indeed, plants seem to be a sort of laboratory for the purification of water.

We suppose that it is impossible to find any water in springs or streams, that is perfectly pure. It contains many of the salts, or some of the metals in solution. It combines with gases, and holds them, dissolved, as it were. Of carbonic gas it will absorb its bulk or volume, and of ammoniacal gas it will absorb seventy-eight times its volume—for instance, a gallon of water will swallow up seventy-eight gallons of ammoniacal gas. These salts and these gases are all useful to plants; and they cannot be obtained by the plant except by being held in solution in water and taken up in this state. They are then converted into the substance of the plant by the peculiar organization and operation, and the surplus water thrown off by the leaves, &c.

Dr. Hales, in his work on vegetable physiology, gives many interesting experiments respecting the amount of water thrown off by some plants—for instance, a cabbage, during its growth in summer, will throw out, in the form of insensible vapor, half its weight of water. A sunflower, not more than three feet high, threw off in a day, two pounds of water. Dr. Woodward also found that a sprig of mint that weighed but 27 grains, sent forth 2543 grains of water in 77 days, or little more than 33 grains per day. A sprig of nightshade, weighing 49 grains, threw off 3700 grains in the same time, which is more than 48 grains per day.

A little calculation will prove what an immense quantity of water is evolved from an acre of land that contains a given quantity of plants.

Williams, in his "History of Vermont," relates some experiments on the subject, that are interesting. He ascertained how much water passed off from a single leaf of a rock maple in a day. He then cut the tree down, and carefully collected and counted the leaves, and he found that this tree, which was eight inches and a half through, transpired 339,000 grains of water in 13 hours. A pint of water weighs one pound, or 7000 grains, and hence every acre of land which contained six hundred and forty such trees upon it, which is four on a square rod, will throw off three thousand eight hundred and seventy-five gallons of water in twelve hours.

This is during the natural operation of the growth of the trees. Is it any wonder that drouth is so disastrous to agricultural operations? Water seems to be to vegetation what blood is to the animal race, and although its circulation and operation is not analogous, yet is as indispensable to the life of the plants.

GOOD USE OF THE SEEDS OF ROMAN WORMWOOD.

The Roman wormwood—ragweed, or as some call it, bitter weed, (Ambrosia Elatior, of botanists,) all know is a troublesome weed, and of little use to the farmer. It will, however, find its way in many places, about fences, on waste grounds, and on the margin of streams that are overflowed in the spring and left dry in the summer. If you should be troubled in this way, and have not the time and means of extirpating them, turn your sheep among them in the fall, and they will feast on the seeds with great relish. We had a large growth of this weed on the site of an old brick yard. In October we noticed the sheep very busy among them, and on going to them, found that they were eating the seeds very greedily. On taking some of these seeds, and crushing them with our teeth, we found them full of meal, (farina,) and rather pleasant to the taste. On the margin of a stream near by, a flock of domestic ducks were very busily engaged in gathering what they could reach of the same seed. Now, we would not recommend the cultivating this seed any at all; yet if you should by chance have a crop of it on your premises that you can't destroy in the summer, turn your sheep and your ducks among it in the fall. They will gather most of the seed, and prevent its spreading much more.

FALL STRAWBERRIES. Many of our exchanges "out West," have been telling of wonderful second crops of flowers and fruits, and of course we must say our say. Well, then, hear this. Ripe strawberries were picked in the field of Mr. Benjamin Joy of Winthrop, on the 5th of October last. Can any body as far North beat this?

WHEAT. Upwards of one hundred and fifty varieties of this grain are known to exist. Yet it is a factitious production, and indebted for its present excellency wholly to the power of cultivation.

ASPARAGUS. This delicious vegetable was first introduced into England in 1608. It is now extensively cultivated throughout Europe, and is one of the most desirable plants known.

MAINE FARMER.

A Family Paper; Devoted to Agriculture, Mechanic Arts, General Intelligence, &c.

VOL. XIV.

AUGUSTA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1846.

NO. 50.

PLANTING TREES.

Many object to planting trees because, forsooth, the benefit of their labors can be enjoyed only by posterity. A very good story is told of an aged man who was engaged in transplanting some trees, and who was interrupted in his noble and philanthropic labor by a passer-by, with the interrogation—"Why do you plant what you cannot partake of the fruit?" The old man raised himself slowly, and gazing for a while on the querist, replied—"Others planted trees for me before I was born: I have enjoyed the blessing, and partaken of the fruit of their labors, and I now plant that others may enjoy the blessing of mine, and that the moral of gratitude may exist when I am dead and gone." Such sentiments are alike creditable to the head and heart.

There are many regions on almost every farm which, from their natural roughness and sterility, are susceptible of profitable improvement in no other way than by devoting them to the production of trees either for fruit or fuel. In England, Scotland and Wales, the lofty, barren and heath covered mountains, are being converted into plantations of trees for the latter purpose. The old Duke of Athol, planted, on his estate in Perthshire, no less than fifteen thousand, five hundred and ninety-seven acres, containing twenty-seven millions, four hundred and thirty-one thousand, six hundred trees. One of his successors, encouraged by the wonderful success of this patriotic experiment, planted six thousand five hundred acres of mountain land solely with German Larches. The land, previous to planting, was rented for twenty-two cents yearly per statute acre, but is now valued at the enormous sum of thirty-two millions, five hundred thousand dollars!

In this country, where, comparatively speaking, there is still an abundance of fuel, and where but a limited few possess the advantages requisite for extended operations of this sort, we do not expect to see the planting of trees for fuel carried to great extent; but we do hope that more attention will be accorded to the subject than it has thus far elicited, and that plantations of valuable trees for fuel and mechanical purposes, as well as for fruit, will yet arise to adorn and beautify the land. Wherever there is a vacant spot, by the road sides or in the farm yard, let it be occupied by trees.

Travel through some of the older districts of New England, and witness the beautiful appearance presented by the hamlets and villages, where every edifice has its surrounding grove, and every street its colonnades of maples, oaks, or elms.

THE ORGANIC PART OF SOILS.

That portion of the common earth usually denominated *organie*, is found by the agricultural chemist to vary much, both as respects quantity and quality, in different soils. In those of a peaty conformation or character, it exists in great abundance, and the same remark applies not unfrequently with like correctness to lands that have been long cultivated and strengthened by frequent and copious applications of invigorating manures. Some of the most productive soils that have been chemically examined, have yielded from ten to twenty per cent of organic matters, and under the most favorable circumstances, it has rarely amounted, in the richest, to more than one quarter, or twenty-five per cent.

Some of the most productive wheat fields in Great Britain, have been found to contain no more than nine or ten parts of purely organic matter in the hundred. A distinguished agricultural writer in remarking upon this subject, says: "Oats and rye will grow in a soil containing only one and a half per cent; and barley when only two or three parts per cent are present. In very old pasture lands, and in gardens, vegetable (organic) matter occasionally accumulates so as to be injurious, and overload the upper soil." This contingency, however, is one that need not be dreaded in this country, though it may sometimes happen in others where the soil is older, and better manured.

LIME IN PLANTING TREES.

Many object to planting trees either for ornament or use, in consequence of the numerous failures they experience. This, however, it should be recollected, is not a necessary result. With proper care there is no more difficulty in transplanting than in planting or propagating from the seed or germ. In setting trees, we have ever found that they do best when taken up in the fall, about the time the leaves drop. Fruit and forest trees, shrubs and perennial plants of all descriptions, may, at this season, be removed with perfect success. In setting, we usually put a small quantity of lime in the hole—about half a peck to a tree, mixing it thoroughly with the mold, in order that it may be easily accessible to the roots, which ramify in every direction in quest of food. An English publication says that an extensive plantation of trees has been formed within a few years, without the loss of a single tree, and this has been effected simply by putting a small quantity of lime in the hole before depositing the tree. Four bushels are said to be amply sufficient for an acre. The effect of the lime is "to push on the growth of the plant in the first precarious state." There seems to have existed, at first, an apprehension that liming the plant would force it on prematurely, but this apprehension experience has demonstrated to have been perfectly groundless.

MURIATE OF AMMONIA is obtained from ashes of camel dung, mud, and straw—the fuel used by the Egyptians, where the muriate is largely manufactured, and forwarded to the European markets. With the Egyptians it constitutes an important article of commerce.

TO STRENGTHEN VINEGAR. Suffer it to be repeatedly frozen, and separate the upper cake of ice from it.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

We have been pleased with the following correspondence, because it evinces a desire on one part to encourage the boys, and on the other a willingness to exertion and perseverance in improvement.

It will be recollected that the trustees of the Kennebec Co. Ag. Society offered a premium for competitors among boys not over sixteen years of age, in ploughing. For some reason or other only one lad offered himself on the ground, and, as there was no others, he was told to take his stand among the men, and "go a-head." He ploughed with a span of horses, holding the plough and driving the horses himself, and so well did he perform his part that the adjudging committee gave him the second premium.

We hope that we shall see a whole troop of boys enter the lists another year as competitors for the Society's premiums. [Editor.]

[COPY.]

MAINE FARMER OFFICE, }
October 16, 1846.

MASTER L. STURGIS: I witnessed with much pleasure and satisfaction your performance at the late Ploughing Match of the Kennebec Co. Ag. Society, in Vassalboro'. The skill and activity which you there manifested, prove that you have not been an idle boy, but have improved yourself in the noble and useful art of ploughing; an art which may be truly considered the foundation of good agriculture. As a testimony of my regard, and an earnest of my hopes that you will continue to improve both head and hand by assiduous application in acquiring and practicing the great principles of productive science, I beg leave to present to you the plough which you held on that occasion, and with which you won the premium so justly awarded to you by the Society's committee, being Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's Eagle Self-sharpening Plough No. 3. In presenting it allow me also to suggest the importance of firmly establishing, in early life, habits of industry, perseverance, and decision, ever remembering that

"He who by the plough would thrive,
Himself must either hold or drive."

With sentiments of esteem,

I am yours, &c.,

RUSSELL EATON.

[REPLY.]

VASSALBORO', Oct. 24, 1846.

MR. RUSSELL EATON: Sir—Please accept my sincere thanks for the token of approbation and esteem which I received from you on the 16th inst. I shall ever look upon it with much pleasure and gratification, and, as I look upon it, my mind's eye will wander to him who presented it as a token of the interest he takes in improvement in the agricultural arts. It shall ever be my endeavor henceforth to meet the approbation of the wise and good, by habits of industry and perseverance—by trying to practice decision of character, and amiable conduct. In regard to your rhyme, allow me to say that I suppose it would be a labor-saving machine that would both hold and drive, when it could be done to advantage. Thank you for your kind wishes and estimable advice. May health and prosperity attend you through many a long year, and may every one of them be a leap year, as the Irishman said.

With respect, your humble serv't,

LLEWELLYN STURGIS.

MAKING BACON.

This is the season for "curing hams," as some call the process of making bacon.

Every body knows how to make bacon, and but very few succeed in making that which is good. A writer, under the signature of "H. M.," in the last Farmer's Cabinet remarks that "to cure hams thoroughly, so as to have them sufficiently salt to keep, and not too salt, and to give them the real Jersey flavor, is a delicate operation, and requires a nice hand. The following recipe is a good one, and may be relied upon for making a first rate ham. To 80 lbs. of hams, take four ounces of brown sugar, three ounces of saltpetre, and one pint of fine salt; pulverize and mix them thoroughly; rub the hams well all over, particularly on the flesh side, and lay them on boards for 36 or 48 hours; then pack them in casks, adding two quarts of fine salt to every 80 lbs. of hams. In fifteen or eighteen days they may be hung up to smoke."

The same writer says—six lbs. of fine salt, four ounces of saltpetre, one and a quarter lbs. of brown sugar, make a good proportion for 100 lbs. of beef. In twenty-four hours a pickle that will bear an egg endways should be applied.

PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURE IN UPPER CANADA. The last number of the British American Cultivator, contains a long and interesting account of the Show and Fair of the "Provincial Agricultural Association for Upper Canada." It must have been an interesting time to the people of that growing and fertile country. Many enthusiastic speeches were made at the dinner, and an address on the second day was delivered to a large assemblage, by Hon. Adam Ferguson, who zealously argued in favor of the soil, climate, and advantages of the Province. Go ahead, Canadians. Improved agriculture on your side of the hedge, instead of impoverishing will fertilize our side too.

THE CAROB TREE. This tree, sometimes called St. John's bread tree, is indigenous in Cyprus. It is the *Ceratonia Siliqua* of Linnaeus, and attains the size and altitude of our largest oaks, and is prolific of excellent fruit.

BRASS CLOCKS are now manufactured by steam in New York! One firm employs twenty-five men, and complete in one day one hundred clocks beautifully finished. A large sheet of brass is put into a heavy press, and after a few twistings, comes out in the shape of highly finished wheels, at the rate of 60 per minute.

TO BAKE APPLES.

The rustic husbandman, amongst his other things, To market now the full grown apple brings;
The different sorts, in different sacks he binds,
Whose open mouths reveal the various kinds.
Delicious fruit! when baked or nicely stew'd,
A pleasant relish and a wholesome food.
Select those apples with a ruddy skin,
The pearmain called, whose pulp is hard within;
Eachew the neatly and the mellow kind.
And those with tough, unpalatable rind.
With careful hand and towel clean, you clear
The extraneous dirt,—nor let a speck appear;
Then with the "corer" pierce them through and through,
(In lieu of which a common knife will do)
And place them upright in a shallow dish,
Or earthen plate or pan,—just as you wish;
And in the bottom of each dish you pour
A cup of water, largely sugar'd o'er;
And cuts of lemon, both the pulp and rind,
A great improvement to the dish you'll find.
Now cram the cavity by cutting cover caused,
(To tell this secret 'till the last I've caused)
With sugar and with butter equal shares,
Which place within the lid in separate layers.
The oven now the dish prepared receives;
The genial heat, a dark brown color gives;
The butter melting, through the apple flows,
And takes the sugar, too, where'er it goes.
The bursting fruit is pleasant to the sight,
The taste delicious, epicures unite. [Neal's Gaz.]

ANALYSIS OF PEAT ASHES.

GIESSEN, July 27, 1846.

MR. TUCKER—I send you below a peat ash analysis, which I recently made at the request of Baron Von Liebig. This ash is sold extensively at Opladen, and enjoys a high reputation as a manure:

Peroxide of iron,	7.84
Alumina,	9.73
Lime,	4.58
Magnesia,	0.29
Potash,	2.45
Chloride of potassium,	0.36
Sulphuric acid,	3.58
Soluble silica,	21.24
Sand and traces of coal,	51.15
	101.22

A glance at its constitution, and a recollection of the doctrines of the Giessen Professor, will at once explain its utility. The alumina is doubtless due to the soil gathered up with the turf. The absence of phosphates might have been expected in the ashes of plants where seeds are invisible and which form no part of the food of animals or birds. The potash and gypsum, sulphuric acid and lime, are in good proportion. But the soluble silica is immense.

When it is remembered that the stalks of grasses and grain need silica in order to their strength—in order to their standing erect—and how much of grain that would otherwise be an excellent crop, is lost because of its want of support when the head should be developing, it will readily be seen how such an ash may be valued as a manure.

A friend of mine, assistant to Prof. Will, has been employed by a Prussian agricultural society to analyze six varieties of soil—for each of which he is to receive 30 florins, or \$72 for the whole. The labor will occupy him some three or four months, and in the end will be scarcely any value whatever to those who employ him. Because his work will be indifferently performed—for he is an excellent chemist—but because it would be unjust in the next year to base farming labor upon the analysis of soils gathered last year.

His method is the following: He makes a combustion in oxide of copper, and another in soda-lime, to determine the organic matters and ammonia. Treating the whole with water he analyses the soluble products. Then with nitric acid he analyses what is soluble therein, and then melting with baryta, he determines the absolute amount of potash and soda. To one familiar with the conditions of the problem, it will be seen that anything short of the course he has proposed to himself, would leave questions unanswered to which chemistry might have replied.

A soil is composed, exclusively of the decayed organic substances, of the rock crust of the earth, more or less pulverized. This crust was originally granite, or hypersthene, or basalt, or trap, or some other unstratified, or mixtures of two or more of these rocks. The sedimentary rocks are fragments of previously formed masses of greater or less fineness, and containing more or less remains of organic forms. A mixture of both with mouldering animal and vegetable matter makes the arable land of our fields. The inorganic materials are every day becoming finer and finer. Cold and heat, moisture and dryness, carbonated water, animal and vegetable life, and other instrumentalities are combining to reduce the larger to lesser masses; of these there are all dimensions. Some are fine enough to be dissolved—others that will reach this condition in the coming fall, others that will be soluble in another year, others in ten years.

Of these pure water will dissolve some—the carbonates of soda and potash, and the salts of ammonia: carbonated water others—the phosphates of the alkalies and alkaline earths: muriatic acid still more—the other compounds of lime or magnesia, the alumina, the iron, and some of the silicates: nitric acid still more; and melting with baryta will bring all the silicates into a soluble state. Only those portions soluble in carbonated water are immediately available for crops. Those soluble in muriatic acid and not soluble in carbonated water, may become available next year; and portions of those now requiring to be melted with baryta in order to their solubility will ultimately become finer and finer, and at last soluble in muriatic acid, and then in carbonated water—that is to say, more or less—for some of these compounds resist the agencies that ordinarily act upon rock masses.

Now all this laborious process is gone through with for earth from one cubic foot of soil, while every other cubic foot in the field may differ from it; and it reveals only the present condition, not what it may be a short time hence. The frosts and rains of the coming fall and winter will spring apart the larger pebbles, or eat away

their irregular angles, and other ingredients will be presented, while those now soluble will have been taken up by plants or washed away by rains. Again, the most important ingredients are usually in the least proportion—the potash or soda—the gypsum—the phosphates and the soluble silica—constitute usually but a fraction compared with the sand, alumina, and iron; and the former are frequently present in sufficient quantity for the full development of vegetables without their having been analyzed. Soils of West India cane plantations have been analyzed in Great Britain without potash being found in them—though this ingredient is present in the ashes of the cane plant.

What shall be done then to learn the capacities of a soil? Liebig has proposed to observe the weeds or plants which naturally grow there, and finding those which flourish and come to maturity—examine the table of ash analyses—comparing this table with that of a wheat, or oat, or corn, or barley analysis—straw and grain—some idea of its capacity may be justly derived.

This idea makes the subject too simple to be received for a time. Still it will gain ground, as has the view of the essential importance of mineral manures, until some of the most earnest wishes of this laborious chemist are realized to the agriculturist and the world.

Respectfully yours, E. N. HORSFORD.

[Albany Cultivator.]

CULTIVATION OF ORCHARD GRASS.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In a late journey through a part of Pennsylvania, I observed that the stock farmers, are cultivating orchard grass in preference to every other, as it affords perpetual pasture for their cattle and sheep, which thrive well upon it, although it is accounted coarse herbage. Many of these so engaged make considerable profit by the sale of seed, which when very clean and pure, sells readily at high prices. The mode of cutting the seed is, to cradle off the top of the crop, letting the bulk of the hay stand to be mown sometime after, when fresh roots have sprung from the roots, the whole then making good winter fodder. But it is of great importance to obtain the seed pure and clean from an admixture of the seeds of the grasses and weeds, and to accomplish this object, I observed one of the most intelligent and successful growers of this profitable crop, who goes the right way to work it, plowing his land four times after oats, before he sows his wheat, with which crop he seeds his grass; remarking, however, that he considers such a system of pulverization, injurious, rather than otherwise to the wheat crop; forcing forward, a too rapid autumnal growth—no doubt a very just conjecture.

Immediately after oat harvest, he turns in the stubble, and harrows the ground, when millions of weeds make their appearance. Upon these he carries abroad his dung, and turns all in, harrowing again for another crop of weeds, which, as soon as well up, are again turned under, the dung then coming on the top, is well harrowed and mixed with the soil, and left for another growth of weeds, when the whole is sown and ploughed under by a very shallow furrow. Admiring management this, and applicable to many other crops, by which a farm could be kept clean at comparatively little cost or labor; the system being recommended in one of our Agricultural publications, where it is termed, "a plan for the cultivation of weeds," which is the main difference between the old and the new husbandry, the one preventing them from growing, the other, encouraging their growth that they may be extirpated by the plough—a system, calculated to make a difference of a profit or loss on a farm. On such a clean and well pulverized soil as above described, the orchard grass seed is sown, with the fairest prospect of complete success, and substantial profit; the beauty of the sample of the seed thus raised insuring its best recommendation in the market. [Boston Cultivator.]

WINE MAKING.

At a late conversation of the New York Farmer's Club, "Mr. Hall remarked that, he had some experience both in raising grapes and in making wine; and that he had personally examined the vineyards in Europe, and the caves or cellars there, which are indispensable for the manufacture of good wines. He said that wine is made with as much facility, nearly, as cider. Before the "must" or expressed juice of the grape undergoes its first fermentation, it may vary in its specific gravity according to the kind of wine into which it is to be made. That of the best white wines of France and Spain has a specific gravity of 1.083, which is determined by an instrument known under the names of *hydrometer*, *aerometer*, *saccharometer*, &c. If the specific gravity of the must is below this point, it is increased by addition of sugar. By this means, good wines can be made from the juice of unripe grapes. While the must is undergoing the first fermentation in the vats, a scum or froth rises to the surface, in a similar manner as the pomace and other impurities do in the "working" of cider, which is skimmed off. When it becomes clear it is put into casks, and kept in a cellar or cave of a temperature of about 60° F., where a second fermentation takes place, and where the wines are finally prepared and kept for use, or for exportation. In the manufacture of wines, he said, the addition of alcohol is unnecessary, and contrary to the prevailing opinion, it will keep and bear transportation as well without it as with it. While in Spain, he ascertained that most of the wines of domestic consumption, as well as those exported to the West Indies and other colonies, for the use of the Spaniards, were made without the addition of brandy; whereas, all the strong wines shipped to Great Britain and the United States, contained at least 25 per cent. When the makers of wine for export to England or to this country were asked by him why they put brandy in it, the answer was, "You English have hot mouths, and we must gratify them."

A CUSTOMER FROM A NEW QUARTER. Among the sales of flour yesterday were upwards of two thousand barrels, destined for direct shipment to Algiers. [New Orleans Bulletin.]

POTATO CROP—BLIGHT—MANURING, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In this town we have never suffered much by the potato rot, until this year. For two years previous, the blight has done injury to some extent, by killing the crop prematurely, but owing to the drought which prevailed here, two seasons previous to this, the rot did not follow the blight. Thus while other sections of the country have suffered severely by the rot—we have been gainers, in consequence of higher prices. But this year we suffer in common with many other parts of the country. The loss to this town will be very great, on account of the great labor and expense bestowed on the potato crop, to the exclusion of other crops. It is emphatically our principal crop. Much more profit was realized last year both by farmers and "coasters," than in any previous year, owing to the advanced prices, although on account of the drought there was a small crop.

This year some pieces which were very highly manured, and looked most promising for a great crop, (as did the crop generally before the blight) will not afford ten bushels to the acre fit for market. In some pieces, 1-4 are decayed, some 1-2 and others 3-4, and some are not worth digging. But the greatest damage has been done by the blight, which was very general throughout this region, on all soils, and in all the different kinds of potatoes; entirely killing the vines, as early as July, stopping all further growth of tubers, when they had but just commenced growing. Those planted early, on dry, sandy soils, have escaped the rot; and are generally sound; being more matured when the blight struck them; although such pieces do not yield half the number of bushels to the acre, as was anticipated before the blight.

From enquiry and observation, I am satisfied the crop in Madison this year will not average over 40 bushels to the acre, fit for market. The aggregate amount of potatoes produced in this town in favorable seasons, may be set down at 75,000 bushels. I cannot tell the amount produced this year, but probably not twenty thousand bushels; although a greater number of acres were planted than ever was known before. Many of our young men are engaged in the potato trade, and may be ranked with the most enterprising class in New England. They range through the potato country, from Maine to New York, for speculation. Last year their harvest of profits was very good. It is reported that Madison people have some years sold at least one fourth part of all the potatoes which were sold in New York market. It is said that one young man had twenty thousand dollars invested in the potato trade last year, much of it was carried to Maine, and realized a profit of some four or five thousand dollars. Seven men were from this town to Maine, this year, (at early digging,) to buy up all the potatoes which could be bought through the State. Farmers in this section, generally hold their potatoes higher this year, than the market will yet warrant—therefore speculators cannot buy them.

Manuring. Perhaps some may wish to know how we manure our crop. There are in this town twenty-one seins, built, kept in repair, and managed with upwards of one hundred men, on purpose to catch fish for manure. (White fish, here called, Bony fish in some places,) these seins will probably average from 500, to 700,000 each, this season—one sein has caught 1,400,000, calling the average 600,000—and the value one dollar per thousand, (there is frequently a great demand for them at \$1.50 per thousand,) and we have twelve thousand six hundred dollars' worth of manure in fish alone—this added to all the barn yard, stable, muck, hog pen, and seaweed manure, would swell the sum to more than forty thousand dollars yearly. Farmers frequently put on 20 dollars' worth of yard manure, and 12 dollars worth of fish to the acre, this with the expense of carting, will amount to at least \$37! Thirty seven dollars to an acre for manure! And the potato crop lost! But it is of no use to despair, for our potatoes may not rot another year. If they do, we must raise something else.

Several things may be laid down as facts, with regard to the potato crop in this section, based on experience and observation.

Firstly. The rot does not always, on all soils, follow the blight.

Secondly. In any section of country where a drought prevails, while the tubers are growing, and after the blight, the potatoes will not rot to much extent.

Thirdly. The rot will be greatest on soils retentive of moisture; and greatest in those sections of country where there is the greatest amount of wet and heat, both before and after the blight.

Fourthly. Potatoes planted early on light, dry soils, will escape the rot, if any do.

Fifthly. Potatoes planted on soils very highly manured, (causing a very rapid growth, in a wet and hot season,) will be a greater proportion of them "diseased," (soil and time of planting being similar,) than on soils highly manured, (provided the blight continues.) N. Dowd.

Madison, Ct., October, 1846.

HINTS TO FARMERS. The farmer's life is shunned by many because it seems one of mindless drudgery. It ought not to be so. If our farmers would study and reflect more, they might do less hard labor, and yet accomplish more in the course of a year. Ten hours' work in summer, and eight in winter, ought, with good management, to give any man a good living. He who works so hard that he cannot read or reflect after the labors of the day are over, because of fatigue, does not plan wisely. Let no man shun work when work should be done; delve, delve forever, is not the end of man's life. The farmer's evenings should be devoted to mental acquisition and rational enjoyment. To sip and tumble into bed is a hog's fashion, and highly injurious to health. But let a farmer have about him the choicest works of his own auxiliary avocations; let these form the subject of study and conversation at least two evenings in a week, while the newspaper, the newest and oldest volume, such have their allotted seasons. Two or three dollars contributed by each family in a neighborhood or school district, would go a great way in the purchase of standard books at modern prices. These are but hints which each reader will modify as his judgment shall suggest. I plead only for the essential thing of making home pleasant, and its hours of relaxation hours of instruction also. [H. Greely.]

BUCKWHEAT FOR COLORING. The fresh blossoms and succulent stems of buckwheat have been applied in Europe to the purposes of dyeing wool, &c. The infusion, by the addition of preparations of bismuth and tin, produces a beautiful brown color. From the dried flower bundles, different shades of green are obtained. The Siberian species of wheat, in particular, yields a fine yellow, which, upon boiling the wool still longer in the dye, changes into a golden tint, and at length becomes a beautiful yellow. [Farmer's Encyclopedia.]

TRUE ELEMENTS OF HAPPINESS.

Every human being who has arrived to years of discretion, finds himself borne along by a tide of circumstances beyond his control. Time, day after day, brings him nearer and nearer to old age and to the end of his life.

The circumstances of society and situation in life are not wholly of his own seeking or forming, the circumstances of bodily strength and health are not always within his control, and yet amid all this concurrence of circumstances—of things and events, he struggles along, endeavoring to be—what? Why, to be happy. That is the very aim of every one, and yet so diversified are characters, sentiments and tastes, that people sometimes stop and enquire what happiness is—in what it consists.

Happiness must consist in a quiet, pleasurable, satisfied state of the mind. The condition of the mind makes or unmakes our happiness. Possession of riches may administer to our bodily comforts, and enable us to gratify our wishes, but they cannot ensure happiness. If you doubt this, tell to the first rich man you see and he will tell you better. You may find him weeping over the loss of a wife, a son or a daughter, whom all his wealth could not save. You may find him suffering with pain and sickness as severe as ever racked a poor man's body and which all his wealth cannot alleviate. We have often thought of the answer that a rich man once made to his poor neighbor. The poor man was murmuring and repining at his lot, and wishing that he had the riches of the other to make him happy. My friend, said the rich neighbor, would you take care of my property for your board and clothes? No sir, said he. Well, that's all I get for doing it.

He was right. It is true, he might occasionally feel a momentary gratification, of pride, in looking at his possessions, but in reality all he could get was his board and his clothes. But to be quiet and satisfied in mind requires something deeper, and broader, and higher than anything of merely an earthly nature. We are not going to preach, or to give a dull homily upon duties, or sinners or saints; but we are going to assert that the true elements of happiness are founded upon religious sentiments. By religious sentiments we do not mean sectarian sentiments—these have nothing more to do with it than the buttons on your coat—indeed, these sectarian notions are a source, oftentimes, of great unhappiness. But there are certain great principles which must be believed and firmly relied upon if man would be happy. In the words of a French writer—"He must be persuaded that his present life has relation to a never-ending future, and that an eternal providence watches over the universe, before he will abandon himself with a tranquil confidence to those irresistible influences by which he is borne along. He then marches to the future as he would confidently follow a guide of tried prudence and fidelity in a dark path." This is the true foundation, though not always thought of, especially if health and prosperity continue to carry us along smoothly for a time. But when one or both of these fail, we are brought to see it, whether we are willing or not. It seems that misfortune is too often necessary to rub the scales from our eyes, and enable us to see where we are, and what we are, and to what we must apply to bring us to real happiness. We want something that will give the heart a shaking and rouse it up to a full gush of tender feeling and religious sentiment. The head is not always the right organ to appeal to. It is rather disputatious—has a good many "whys and wherefores" to propound, and is not always quiet and satisfied, even with answers that it cannot gainsay; but once get the heart enlisted aright, and happiness will always come.

We like Chateaubriand's account of his conversion, where he afterwards lived up to the true precepts of religion or not; but his religion began in the right place. "My mother," said he, "after being thrown, at the age of seventy-two, into a dungeon, where she saw a part of her children perish, expired at last upon a couch of straw, to which her miseries had consigned her. The remembrance of my errors infused great bitterness into her last days. In death she charged one of my sisters to recall me to that religion in which I had been reared. My sister transmitted me the last wish of my mother. When this letter reached me beyond the seas, my sister herself was no more. She had died from the consequences of her imprisonment. These two voices proceeding from the tomb, this death which served as the interpreter of the dead, deeply struck me. I did not yield, I admit, to great supernatural lights. My conviction proceeded from the heart. I wept and I believed."

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INVENTORS.

We find by the last number of the "Eureka," which is the Journal of this Association, that the first annual meeting took place in Mechanics' Hall, N. Y., on the 15th of October last. James Renwick was chosen President. Vice Presidents were chosen from almost every State in the Union.

Those for Maine were Amos Lindsey, of Canton, and Rufus Nichols, of Saco. Joseph P. Pinson, Jr., of New York, Recording Secretary; Geo. Gifford, N. Y., Corresponding Secretary; Charles St. John, N. Y., Treasurer; H. L. B. Lewis, N. Y., Librarian; Jacob Townsend, Benj. Rabbe, Selah Hill, Trustees; James Renwick, Joseph Curtis, Thos. B. Stilman, Keepers of Secret Archives.

This Association, if the plans proposed are well carried out, will be of immense advantage to inventors, and indeed to the community in general. An excellent address was delivered before them, by Geo. Gifford, Esq., which is published in the Eureka, and parts of which we hope to be able to publish hereafter.

INSURABILITY DURING SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal of last week, relates some interesting cases of insensibility produced by inhaling an intoxicating vapor. During its operation, which continues for a few minutes, teeth may be extracted and very severe surgical operations performed without the patient realizing any pain. A patient has been taken out by Dr. Charles T. Jackson and Dr. Morton. It promises to be a valuable thing in the hands of skillful and responsible practitioners.

NEVER PURCHASE AN ARTICLE OF DRESS EXCEPT OF THE MOST STYLISH MERCHANTS OF THE MODES; YOU WILL THEN OBTAIN A FASHIONABLE ARTICLE, WITH THE PRIVILEGE OF PAYING TEN TIMES ITS WORTH.

ARSENICAL SOAP.

FOR PRESERVING SKINS OF ANIMALS FOR MUSEUMS. A friend wishes to know what is the best preparation for preserving the skins of birds and animals for Museums, Cabinets of natural history, &c. According to our experience, the Arsenical soap, made according to the following recipe, is the best.

Take Camphor, 5 ounces; Arsenic (white oxide) in powder, 2 pounds; white bar or castile soap, 2 pounds; Pearlash or carbonate of soda, 12 ounces; Lime in powder, 5 ounces. Cut the soap into small pieces, as thin as possible. Put them into a pot over a gentle fire, with very little water, taking care to stir it often with a wooden spatula.

When it is melted put in the pearlash and powdered lime. Take it off the fire, add the arsenic and triturate the whole gently. Lastly, put in the camphor, which must first be reduced to a powder in a mortar by the help of a few drops of spirit. Mix the whole well together. It should then be put into some vessel where it can be kept carefully and safe, as it is a virulent poison.

When to be used, a piece may be taken and put into a cup or box, and by adding warm water a lather is prepared, which, after the skin is cleansed from flesh and fat may be applied with a brush all over it, (inside of the skin.) A layer of this cotton batting may be then placed all over it, and the skin then turned and stuffed.

EXCELLENT STOCK FOR SALE.

It will be seen by an advertisement in to-day's paper, that L. Wainwright, who, we are sorry to say, is about to leave the State, offers his stock for sale. There is no better stock in Maine, or even in New England. We are confident he will find no difficulty in disposing of them. Those who are desirous of obtaining the best of stock, will have to be on hand in season.

THE EPHEMERALS are said to have been unable to endure the reproach reflected upon them by the preeminence of any individual, and banished at once, and without compunction, the citizen who presumed to excel the generality of his countrymen. The Athenians also banished individuals from their republic when they had acquired sufficient popularity to endanger the freedom of the State. This institution was called the Ostracism, and the period of banishment was ten years.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED. By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that L. R. A. Wainwright proposes to raise a volunteer company. Those who are desirous of enlisting for the campaign and are of the right mettle, cannot do better than enlist under the gentlemanly Lieutenant.

APPOINTMENT. Col. James L. Child has been appointed Military Store Keeper, of the Kennebec U. S. Arsenal, in this place.

THE WILD PARSLEY. This plant was employed by the ancients to crown the victors at the Nemean games, and was reputed to have sprung from the blood of Archemorus. It was also used, according to Pausanias, to ornament the tombs of the dead.

PRESERVING EGGS FOR ONE OR TWO YEARS.

We find directions for preserving eggs, which were published nearly forty years ago. We give the substance of the rules as follows: Take quick lime, 1 bushel, Bay salt, 32 ounces, Cream Tartar, 8 ounces, or a less quantity, preserving the proportions. Mix these together with as much water as will render the composition or mixture of that consistency that an egg put therein will swim, and its top appear just above the surface of the liquid, into which put and keep the eggs, which will preserve them sound for two years.

In addition to the above, it is recommended that a board or follower, made to fit the vessel in which the eggs are kept, be put on the top to keep them below the surface of the liquid.

THE BURGLARY—THIEVES ARRESTED.

We last week noticed the breaking open of the store of C. B. Mudgett of this town, on Wednesday night of last week, and the taking therefrom of goods to the amount of some \$200. On Thursday efforts were made to discover the perpetrators of the theft, but without avail. Friday morning suspicions were entertained that the rogues or rogues had made their way to Boston in the steamer Kennebec, which left here Thursday afternoon; and Mr. F. Lyford took passage in the Hennessey to pursue them. In the mean time a sharp look-out was kept here, and a reward was offered for the apprehension of certain hearse men in town, but no clue to the goods or rogues could be satisfactorily obtained. Saturday suspicion still rested on one Alexander M. Turner, a foreigner, who has for some time past been engaged with others in the beer business, on steamboat-wharf, and his movements were narrowly watched, and it was found he had communication with a Mr. Foss, a shoemaker, working with Mr. Torrey at Gardiner, and means were taken to procure evidence for his arrest. Mr. Mudgett, accompanied by Mr. H. C. Greenleaf, proceeded to Gardiner and procured a constable, Mr. Davis Gardiner, and commenced operations. Mr. Greenleaf proceeded to hold a "converse" with Foss, which he managed in true Yankee style, obtaining evidence from him, (under the supposition that Greenleaf was knowing to the whole affair, and engaged in it,) to warrant the arrest of Turner. After obtaining the information, and promising to see him again at 8 o'clock that evening, Mr. Greenleaf left him and reported progress to the sheriff, who immediately proceeded to Hallowell, and arrested Turner, who was found in his protestations of innocence. At 8 o'clock Greenleaf again visited Foss, and in conversation held, completely pumped him of all the particulars concerning the stolen property, and made arrangements to take the goods from their hiding place and convey them to Brunswick for safe keeping, and promising to meet him again on his return at 8 o'clock on the next Monday evening, and let him know of his success!—Foss was immediately arrested, and immediate search was made for the goods, which were found ingeniously concealed in Landers & Co's beer, in this town, together with other goods taken at different times by the gang, amounting from \$3 to \$500. Landers and H. M. Holt were then arrested and lodged in Augusta jail to await their trial. Monday afternoon, two more, Messrs. Torsey and Brigham of Gardiner, were arrested. On Monday evening Mr. Lyford returned having in custody Mr. Charles Harvey, who confessed guilty and implicated others; and it is probable the whole affair will be brought to light, and all connected in the nefarious business, exposed.

A BROTHER'S DYING CARE.

A Brother's Dying Care. In the breast pocket of Mr. Charles French, who perished in the wreck of the Atlantic, was found the miniature of his only brother, Benjamin. It was a favorite and beautiful painting, executed in London; and to preserve this, whether he escaped or perished, Charles carefully wrapped it in a linen handkerchief, marked with his whole name, and placed it in the breast pocket of his coat, thus showing that some of his last thoughts were upon his brother. The miniature, by being thus protected, escaped without being very materially injured; though the case was so soaked in water as to fall apart. This picture, with a penknife and a small key, were forwarded to Mr. French's friends yesterday. Nothing has yet been heard of his watch, purse or valise. (Trav.

LOSS OF THE ATLANTIC.

Further Particulars. The Traveller says: The following is an accurate list of the passengers and crew of the Atlantic, as we have been able to collect, and is probably very nearly accurate:

Saved. Mr. Monroe, conductor on the Worcester, Norwich and London Railroad, having charge of the train; Stetson, captain's assistant; Mr. Boyle, clerk of the boat; Capt. A. Allen, pilot; Charles Crandall, 2d do; Dennis Spallina, wheelman; Elias Kingston, first mate; R. W. Duncan, 2d do; John Keefe, steward; Eli Biddle, 2d engineer; John J. Gale, 3d do; Charles Cassidy, Phila. Pa.; Wm. Leverett, Plymouth, N. H.; Vanham Marsh, Haverhill; Thomas Truesdell and Seabury Brewster, New York; Hiram Tarbox, Lisbon, Ct.; Joel R. Andrews and C. C. Constock, New London; Francis Hirsch, Thomas Gooding, Jr., of Mass.; C. Orr, Walcott, Conn.; Madden, C. Peterson, James Wilson and Charles Partridge, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Calvin Houghton, Bridgeport Vt., and Theron E. Baldwin, Cincinnati.

Lost. Capt. Duxton, of the Atlantic; Rev. Dr. Armstrong, corresponding Secretary of the A. B. C. F. M.; Dr. Hasler, of the U. S. Navy; Lieut. A. B. Norton, 4th Infantry, U. S. Army; Messrs. A. F. Colman, Jr., J. M. Watson, C. French, O. Pitts, and Miss Mary Jordan, of Boston; Mr. Kimball and Mr. Burbank, of Brooklyn; John Walton, John J. June, James and Edward Walton, of West Newbury; G. W. Rogers, New London; W. B. Solace, of Bridgeport, Vt.; Mr. Cunningham, of Boston; also, Mary Ann Hilton, Sarah Johnson and Sarah Ruby chambermaids of the boat; John Gleason, porter, and Charles Ricey, Thomas Glibney, John McFarland, Michael Dougherty, and Wm. Willet, total, 27.

The following items we clip from the Bee, of the 30th ult.

We are informed by a person who was a passenger on the Atlantic, that previous to leaving New London, Capt. Duxton told the passengers that it would be dangerous to attempt reaching New York. A vote was taken by the passengers, and it was voted to proceed.

Mr. Stetson (Capt. Duxton's Assistant) attributes the loss of so much life to the fact that the intermediate place between the boat and the shore was filled with loose timbers from the wreck, and embarrassed those in the water, in their efforts to reach the shore, the undertow being so strong, and concentrating this mass of timber into an almost solid body.

The coast was bold and rocky inside of a shelving reef; had she breached to the other way, so that her bows would have struck the breakers, she would not have been saved. The vessel went to pieces immediately; within five minutes of her striking, nothing was left of her entire, but her engines. The freight had mostly been thrown overboard, some time previous.

Capt. Duxton has left a most lovely wife and five young children. The first tidings they had of their irreparable loss was the reception of his body at his own house.

Capt. Duxton lost his life by his indomitable courage. The last that was seen of him, he was standing on the upper deck, near the wheelhouse, giving directions. He was urged to come down, but he refused. It is supposed that when the upper deck went over, he went with it, and was dashed together with the rocks, or struck the boat, as he has a large wound over the eye, and one near his mouth.

The Rev. Mr. Armstrong was an agent of the Board of Foreign Missions. He was a native of Mendon, New Jersey, and has left a wife and five children. During the gale, he proved himself a real Christian, by calling the passengers together repeatedly for religious exercises.

The boat was perfectly tight, and rode out the gale of twenty-eight hours without leaking a drop; and when she struck, she went to pieces in ten minutes.

The boat is insured for about half her value. The Boston and Worcester Railroad Company, which had an interest in the Atlantic of about \$100,000, will pay him \$200,000 in case of the loss by fire, and \$75,000 in case of loss by peril of the sea—all in New York.

The amount of money in charge of Adams & Co's express, is supposed to be about \$7000. Mr. Gould placed Messrs. Adams' valise, the money, &c., in a barrel, to which was attached several life preservers, and it is hoped it will be saved by being cast ashore. A large amount of the freight has washed ashore, and will be saved in a damaged state.

We are truly in hopes that a rumor, the truth of which some circumstances seem to sanction, that there were wreckers and plunderers engaged in rifling the dead bodies, after the wreck, may prove false. It cannot be self-interest, as if the bodies were there should be, at such time, and in such a scene, such ruthless villainy.

[This rumor is confirmed.] Mr. Boyle, the clerk of the boat, relates the following incidents:

"As soon as the works stopped, the Atlantic commenced drifting. All great anchors were let go. The gale continued increasing, and the boat kept drifting towards Fisher's Island. Thursday morning came, and the gale continued. The passengers were greatly alarmed, and during the day repeated prayer meetings were held in the cabin, where all resorted except the officers and crew. Captain Duxton was at his post the whole time, as calm and self-possessed, as if he had been ashore. His presence of mind and encouraging language, gave the utmost confidence to all on board.

The boat had on board over a thousand life-preservers. Every person had two and some three around their bodies; and had it not been for these, not a soul would have been saved. On Thursday night, the boat was struck by a fisher's boat, and it was quite certain she must strike the rocks before morning, unless the wind changed. Their only hope left was in a change of wind.

During the night the gale increased until about half past four o'clock on Friday morning, when all their hopes vanished. The boat struck the rocks about midnight, and in two minutes was a perfect wreck. Most of the passengers were standing afloat. All the upper berths were swept away, and it is believed that many were killed by the flying of plank and timber. The boat heeled out, swinging the bottom towards the rocks.

Every person was compelled to jump overboard. The boat, after she struck, heeled so much, that the distance from the boat to the water was about 18 feet. Many were swept among the rocks and saved, while others were carried under the vessel by the waves and drowned."

Orlando Pitts and a Mr. French, of Boston; the former, secretary of the Boylston Insurance Company; the latter of the Merchants' Insurance Co., were amongst the lost. The N. Y. Com. Advertiser says:

"These gentlemen took passage on board with a view of passing Thanksgiving day in this city; both, we have heard it said, being engaged to be married to young ladies here. It was not known here on Saturday that they were on board; but on the first intimation of the news of the melancholy disaster, a brother of Mr. French proceeded to New London with a view to the recovery of the body of the Rev. Mr. Armstrong. On his arrival there he was shown into an apartment where a number of the bodies were placed. He raised the sheet with which one was covered. What must have been his feelings in recognizing on the ghastly corpse before him the well known lines of his own brother!"

At the last accounts thirty-eight bodies had been recovered, and it was known that five more were lost.

Mr. Leverett, of Plymouth, N. H., was on board, but saved himself with much difficulty. In a letter written to the New London Gazette, he says:

"The next attempt [the second] brought me on shore, alone and in darkness. I rushed up the bank, and engaged in it, to warrant the arrest of Turner. After obtaining the information, and promising to see him again at 8 o'clock that evening, Mr. Greenleaf left him and reported progress to the sheriff, who immediately proceeded to Hallowell, and arrested Turner, who was found in his protestations of innocence. At 8 o'clock Greenleaf again visited Foss, and in conversation held, completely pumped him of all the particulars concerning the stolen property, and made arrangements to take the goods from their hiding place and convey them to Brunswick for safe keeping, and promising to meet him again on his return at 8 o'clock on the next Monday evening, and let him know of his success!—Foss was immediately arrested, and immediate search was made for the goods, which were found ingeniously concealed in Landers & Co's beer, in this town, together with other goods taken at different times by the gang, amounting from \$3 to \$500. Landers and H. M. Holt were then arrested and lodged in Augusta jail to await their trial. Monday afternoon, two more, Messrs. Torsey and Brigham of Gardiner, were arrested. On Monday evening Mr. Lyford returned having in custody Mr. Charles Harvey, who confessed guilty and implicated others; and it is probable the whole affair will be brought to light, and all connected in the nefarious business, exposed."

[Hallowell Gazette.]

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a man for dry clothes; he stripped off his jacket and gave it to me. May Heaven reward him. Above stairs another gave me a flannel shirt. I got into bed and was partially warmed, when a poor, battered body was brought up. Every bed was filled. I put on my wet clothes, and gave him my place. The people at the house did everything in their power to relieve us, but their means were small and our numbers and necessities great."

LOSS OF STEAMER NORTH AMERICA.

The steamer North America, Capt. Brown, from St. John, N. B. via Eastport, morning of 25th ult., for Boston, burst her steam-pipe on Wednesday night, about 10 o'clock, off Long Island, Mount Desert, Me., during a heavy gale from W. S. W. and drifted to within half a mile of the shore, when she let go both anchors, the sea running very high, and the vessel straining very badly. She was soon waterlogged, when the cables were cut, and she went on shore on Thursday morning. A rope was run from the wreck to the shore, and the passengers and the crew, about sixty in number, were all saved, with the exception of a freeman, an Irishman, who slipped from the rope and sank. The passengers and crew, who were in an exhausted condition, left the wreck in the care of some of the islanders who promised to take care of what property might come ashore, for which purpose they built a fire upon the beach. The passengers then went up to the houses upon the island to warm and recruit themselves. Previous to leaving the steamer, Captain Brown had placed all the baggage of the passengers, together with the money, silver plate and other valuables belonging to the boat, in the cabin, aft, which was comparatively unbroken.

On Friday morning, upon going down to the beach, they found that during their absence the cabin had been set on fire, and burnt to the water's edge. By this act they lost everything but one or two trunks, and are mostly in a very destitute condition. Some clothing, which was known to have been in the trunks of the passengers, was found on board a schooner at anchor there, said to be bound to New York, and claimed. To this, answer was made that if they could prove it was their property, it should be given to them. Sixteen passengers and one of the crew sank in this city this morning, in the steamer Penobscot. The letter was not recovered. The North America had but little freight. Capt. Brown remains by the wreck, in the hopes of saving something. One of the crew of the N. A. reports that a schooner, name unknown, was ashore three miles from them, and that the islanders reported that all hands had perished.

The Penobscot has on board fifteen of the crew of the Haytian barque Canton, bound from New York for Bangor, whose loss we have before reported. [Traveller.]

ANOTHER FATAL STEAMBOAT DISASTER. The New Orleans Commercial Times of the 23d, contains an account of a steamboat collision, which occurred on the 21st inst., near Natchez, which occasioned the loss of twenty or thirty lives!

The boats which came in collision were the Sultana and Maria. The Comm. Times says: "The bow of the Sultana struck the Maria opposite her boilers, throwing them out of their places, and breaking the connecting pipe. This caused the Sultana to sink in a few minutes, the water coming up within some two feet of her cabin floor. It is believed that there were from twenty-five to thirty persons drowned, nearly all belonging to the Maria. There were eighteen or twenty severely scalded, most of whom are expected to die. None were injured on the Sultana. The Maria was bound to Memphis, and it is thought she will be a total loss."

The dreadful disaster is said, of course, to have been purely accidental. It occurred about two o'clock in the morning; although it may be inferred from the brief account given by the Times, that it was not so dark as that the boats could not be seen in time to have guarded against the collision, if proper caution had been exercised.

The pilot of the Sultana "imagined that the Maria would pass him on the leeward side," and therefore kept on his way till, too late, he discovered that the pilot of the Maria had entertained a different fancy about it, and so a "purely accidental" collision occurred, and thirty human souls, more or less, were cast, without warning, into eternity. [Traveller.]

THE WRECK OF THE ATLANTIC. Much has been said upon the improper architecture of the "crack boats" upon the Sound, quite enough we would suppose to have induced the public to demand a change. It must have been evident to every intelligent man, that, in the event of a storm, neither the "Atlantic" nor the "Oregon" would stand.

But the courageous self-sacrifice of Captain Duxton cannot atone for the culpability of the owners of the line—it cannot relieve the grief, bereavement and destitution which it has carried into the families who have lost husbands, fathers and brothers by this deplorable casualty.

It has thrown a gloom over the entire community, and carried pain to many a heart not immediately concerned with those who have to mourn the loss of friends by it; but it should do something more than this—it should countenance the community against the use of unsubstantial boats, and lead to efficient measures to prevent all such from running on the Sound. Or must we have more lives, before any conservative steps are taken? [Bee.]

Mr. Gould, of Adams' Express, did good service at the wreck of the Atlantic by his good sense of mind and manly perseverance. Having saved himself by leaping into the surf and quietly taking advantage of the return-swell, which carried him safely to the rocks, he obtained a plank, and standing in the still water under the lee of the rock, pushed his plank to within eight or ten feet of the boat, thus receiving and rescuing, one after another, eighteen or twenty persons.

All this while the noble fellow stood waist-deep in the water, and plied his plank until the last chance of doing good with it was gone. How proud of his species does a man become when he hears such accounts of the true nobility of human nature! [Tribune.]

FILIAL FORETHOUGHT. Life Insurance. Mr. Orlando Pitts, a young gentleman of Roxbury, one of those lost in the steamboat Atlantic, had his life insured at the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, at Boston, for two thousand dollars, which amount he has, by this prudent step, by the payment of only \$43 in premiums, provided for his representatives, some of whom had materially depended upon his assistance during his life and for whom he was thus mindful in anticipation of the event of his death. [Boston Transcript.]

Captain Hosken is ruined. Not only have the underwriters refused to pay the insurance on the steamer Great Britain, but a resolution to insure no ocean steamer which may be put under the command of Capt. Hosken, has been passed by the underwriters at Lloyd's, and communicated to the Great Western company.

MARINE DISASTERS.

The late gales have been very disastrous at the Eastward.

More than twenty vessels were stranded near Mount Desert, and among them one (the Com. Perry,) belonging to Deer Isle, and all on board lost. The bodies of the captain, one seaman and a female passenger, have been picked up. The Frances Elizabeth, of Gloucester, the St. Cloud, of Cranberry Isles, were driven on shore near Spurling's Point, and totally lost—crews saved.

We learn from Gurnison's express that brig Zeleka, Larkin, of and for Eastport, 13 days from Wilmington, D., with about 600 bls. flour and 3000 bushels corn, went ashore on Chance Island, at the mouth of the Machias Bay, eve of 25th inst. in a severe snow storm, bilged, and was full of water. Crew and two passengers, Misses Sabine, saved. The brig may be got off. The flour will be saved; the corn lost or very badly damaged. The Zeleka was about 18 months old, and was insured in this city for \$6000. The cargo is also insured here for \$6150.

Ship Blanchard, of North Yarmouth, from Portland for Norfolk, (where she had a freight of corn engaged to a port in Great Britain at 13d per bushel) went ashore on Hog Island shoals, Cape Charles, at 5 A. M. 25th ult. The pilot boat Baltimore took off Capt. Blanchard and crew, 25th, and carried them to Norfolk. The ship had bilged and filled, and became a total loss; a few sails and some rigging saved, and taken to Norfolk in the pilot boat.

Ship Lagrange, of Bowdoinham, from New Orleans for London, was below New York, 1st inst., in distress; soon after leaving the Belize found the ship to be leaky, and made for New York for repairs; has been N. of lat. 30 53, lon. 80, since Nov. 1, and N. of Hatteras since 8th; had a pilot six days.

Schr. August, of and for Augusta, from Boston, which went ashore on Prout's Neck, night of the 19th ult., has been got off and will be taken to Portland for repairs. The cargo has been reshipped on board schr. Charity, for Augusta.

Schr. Planet, Hawes, of and from Bath to N. Y., with potatoes and leather, parted her cables off Cape Poge Light, and went ashore on Harding's beach, near the Albion; will have to discharge to get off. [Traveller.]

Schr. Sidney, of Augusta, for Boston, went ashore night of 24th ult., on the beach some miles north of Scituate light, and went to pieces. Cargo, lumber. She had previously lost her deck load. Part of cargo saved.

Captain Davis, of the ship California, which arrived yesterday from Boston, reports: On the 7th inst. 50 miles NNE of the Hole in the Wall, saw the wreck of the brig Benjamin, of Frankfort, water-logged, masts gone and stripped; appeared to have been in that situation for some time. [N. O. Delta, 18th.]

Herm. Brig America, from Bangor for Boston, lumber loaded, is ashore at the Glades, near Cohasset. At last accounts they were discharging her cargo.

Schr. Franklin, of Belfast, went ashore on Cape Elizabeth, during the storm of Wednesday night, with loss of both anchors, and drifted into the harbor yesterday afternoon by steamer Flushing, and now lies on the east side of Propper wharf, full of water. [Port. Adv. 1st.]

Schr. Enterprise, of and from Frankfort for Portland, was fallen in with 24th, Cape Elizabeth NNW 70 miles, had sprung leak 23d, and was nearly full of water. The captain and crew were taken off and carried to Provincetown, and were taken to Boston in the tow boat R. B. Forbes.

We learn, verbally, that the schr. Zephyr, owned by N. Flagg, Esq., and Captain Charles Beck, of Augusta, foundered near Seguin, on 30th ult. The crew saved themselves in the boats. Cargo, hay, beef, starch, &c., lost. No insurance. [Journal.]

Brig Oriole, of Augusta, from New York from Charleston, lost part of her deck load, stove house, split sails, &c., in the gale of 25th ult.

Schr. Sally Ann, of and from Wells, split her jib in going into Boston harbor, 23d ult., and was obliged to anchor in Broad Sound, where she parted both cables, and drove upon a ledge near the Graves, bilged, and crew, and drove ashore. Capt. Wells and crew were taken off by a Cape Cod schooner, and landed on some part of the Cape. They reached Boston on Friday last, saving nothing but what they had on.

Brig Palestine, of Gardiner, 29 days from St. Mark, St. Dom., with logwood and mahogany, for New York, ran into New York, 28th ult., for cargo; having lost sails, spar and bulwark, and gale and companion-way stove, vessel badly strained, bowsprit and fore yard sprung; has been 16 days N. of Hatteras. On the 15th, Jacob Cleaver, (cook,) a colored man, died from sickness; on 17th, Jeremiah Kenney, (seaman,) was caught between the companion-way and main boom, and was much injured. Captain Sturtevant, soon after, was thrown by a heavy sea, against the pump, and much injured in the side, from which he still suffers. [Port. Argus.]

Brig Lincoln, of Deer Isle, from Bangor for Brooklyn, lumber loaded, when 10 miles SW of Gay Head, was knocked down and filled with water, and the crew were taken off by a cutter, and the vessel was cut away the lanyards with their knives, and both masts went over the side. The vessel was unmanageable, and drifted with wind and tide. Richard Brown, Jr., and William Adams, of Deer Isle, died from exposure. On the night of the 25th, she grounded on the south beach of an island; soon after, Benj. J. Saunders, mate, of same place, jumped from the vessel to the shore, hoping to reach the shore; he was not seen afterwards. On 26th, by means of a spar which they placed over the bows of the vessel, Captain Raynes, and the remainder of the crew, two in number, attempted to reach the beach, in doing which, Bial S. Raynes of Deer Isle fell off the spar into the water. His comrades got him to the shore, but he died 30 minutes later.

But the courageous self-sacrifice of Captain Duxton cannot atone for the culpability of the owners of the line—it cannot relieve the grief, bereavement and destitution which it has carried into the families who have lost husbands, fathers and brothers by this deplorable casualty.

It has thrown a gloom over the entire community, and carried pain to many a heart not immediately concerned with those who have to mourn the loss of friends by it; but it should do something more than this—it should countenance the community against the use of unsubstantial boats, and lead to efficient measures to prevent all such from running on the Sound. Or must we have more lives, before any conservative steps are taken? [Bee.]

Mr. Gould, of Adams' Express, did good service at the wreck of the Atlantic by his good sense of mind and manly perseverance. Having saved himself by leaping into the surf and quietly taking advantage of the return-swell, which carried him safely to the rocks, he obtained a plank, and standing in the still water under the lee of the rock, pushed his plank to within eight or ten feet of the boat, thus receiving and rescuing, one after another, eighteen or twenty persons.

All this while the noble fellow stood waist-deep in the water, and plied his plank until the last chance of doing good with it was gone. How proud of his species does a man become when he hears such accounts of the true nobility of human nature! [Tribune.]

FILIAL FORETHOUGHT. Life Insurance. Mr. Orlando Pitts, a young gentleman of Roxbury, one of those lost in the steamboat Atlantic, had his life insured at the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, at Boston,

